APR 0 9 2003

#12/B 4-16-03 BHILLAND

Attorney Docket No. 2310

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MATTHEWS et al.

Group Art Unit: 2174

Serial No. 09/503,137

Examiner: MUHEBBULLAH, S.

Filed: February 11, 2000

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APR 1 4 2003

**AMENDMENT** 

**Technology Center 2100** 

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This communication is a response to the Office Action dated December 4, 2002 (hereinafter "the Office Action"). Please consider the following amendments and appended remarks.